



PRESS RELEASE

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Commission Awards \$845,274 Grant to California State University, San Bernadino to Improve Teaching and Learning

February 2004 --- California State University, San Bernadino, will receive a three-year grant of \$845,274 in federal monies that have been earmarked for improving the quality of teaching and learning. Named ***Project Pathways***, this project is designed to address the great demand for teachers of science in the Coachella Valley Unified School District. The school district is the principle partner in the project, along with College of the Desert, and the K-12 Alliance/WestEd.

In addition to recruitment of teachers entering the profession of science teaching, the project goals include increasing teachers' science content knowledge and pedagogical skills, and retaining teachers through support for both veteran teachers and novice teachers alike. Recognizing the collaborative efforts of the schools and universities in the district she represents, Assemblywoman Bonnie Garcia (D-80) stated that, "Innovative ideas and teamwork are what wins grants. I am extremely proud of our community and all of the work they have been doing to improve California".

The California Postsecondary Education Commission has been administering federal funds to improve teacher professional development since 1984. This year the Commission has made awards totaling over \$10 million in the *Improving Teacher Quality State Grants Program*.

The California Postsecondary Education Commission advises the Governor and Legislature on higher education policy and fiscal issues. Its primary focus is to ensure that the state's educational resources are used effectively to provide Californians with postsecondary education opportunities. More information about the Commission and its work can be found at its website at www.cpec.ca.gov. Regarding this program, you may contact Dr. Jan Woerner, California State University, San Bernadino, at 909-880-5623; or Mr. Joe Ceja, Coachella Valley Unified School District, at 760-399-5137.